

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY BUREAU OF NAVAL PERSONNEL 5720 INTEGRITY DRIVE MILLINGTON TN 38055-0000

5720 PERS 00J6/20200108 December 11, 2019

Mr. Justin Katz Inside Washington Publishers 1919 South Eads Street Suite 201 Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Mr. Katz:

SUBJECT: YOUR FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT (FOIA) REQUEST

This is in response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request of August 20, 2019. You seek a copy of document titled Overall Sea Duty Manning Project in accordance with the Secretary of the Navy on March 27, 2019. The Navy's main FOIA Office, DNS-36, assigned your request to this command on December 11, 2019. Your FOIA request number is 2019-010443 and FOIA correspondence file number is 20200087.

The document you seek is "Overall Sea Duty Manning Projections." This document provides Congressional Defense Committees of the Senate and the House of Representatives with sea duty manning projections which are considered tentative and deliberative in nature. This document is exempt from disclosure under FOIA exemption 5 [5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(5)]. Disclosure of the responsive document would significantly inhibit the free and frank opinions, recommendations, advice, subjective evaluations, tentative information, and similar deliberative communications between the U.S. Navy and the Congressional Defense Committees.

Because your request is denied by this command, you are advised of your right to appeal this determination in writing to the Office of the Judge Advocate General, OJAG Code 14, 1322 Patterson Avenue SE Suite 3000, Washington Navy Yard, DC 20374-5066.

The submission of an appeal must received in that office within 90 calendar days from the date of this letter, in order to be considered. Please enclose a copy of this letter, a copy of the original request, and a statement regarding why your appeal should be granted. The letter of appeal and the envelope should bear the notation, "FOIA APPEAL."

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I am the official responsible for the denial of your request. Should you wish to discuss the processing of your request, you may contact the undersigned at (901) 874-3165. You may also contact the DON FOIA Public Liaison, Christopher Julka, at Christopher.a.julka@navy.mil or (703) 697-0031. Further, you may contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) as they provide a voluntary mediation process for resolving disputes between persons making FOIA requests and the Department of the Navy (DON). For more information, please go to: https://www.archives.gov/ogis/about-ogis/contact-information.

Sincerely,

David German

D. P. GERMAN FOIA/PA Officer